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DOCTOR STRANGE

BEGINNING A
NEW ERA OF
GREATNESS!



AND DON'T MISS
THE RETURN OF
BROTHER
VOODOO!



ONCE, STEPHEN STRANGE WAS A MAN LIKE MOST OTHER MEN... A WORLDLY MAN, JADED BY WORLDLY THINGS. THAT IS NO LONGER THE CASE! NOW, HE IS MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS!

BUT STEPHEN STRANGE IS STILL... A MAN! EVEN HE MUST OFTTIMES ATTEND TO SUCH MUNDANE AFFAIRS AS... BANKING!

AWRIGHT, EVERYBODY FREEZE, AND NOBODY'LL GET HURT!

EEEEEE!

UNFORTUNATELY, SOMETIMES AS SIMPLE AN ACT AS CHECKING ONE'S ACCOUNTS CAN BECOME COMPLICATED.

WE'RE GONNA MAKE THIS NICE AND SIMPLE!

EVERYBODY GET DOWN AND HUG THE FLOOR! WE'LL HELP OURSELVES TO THE CASH, AND THEN LEAVE... REAL PEACEFUL LIKE!

'EY... 'EY... THAT'S RIGHT! ON THE FLOOR -- ALL O' YA!

WE'D BEST DO AS THEY SAY, SARA.

STRANGE'S SOCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER ANSWERS WITH A NOD AND A SUSPICIOUS LOOK.

IN ALL THE TIME SHE HAS KNOWN DR. STRANGE, SARA WOLFE HAS NEVER SEEN HIM BACK DOWN FROM A CHALLENGE...

...UNLESS IT SUITED HIS PURPOSE TO DO SO!

A PHYSICAL CONFRONTATION WITH THESE HOLD-UP MEN WOULD NEEDLESSLY ENDANGER THE OTHERS!

BUT, LYING HERE ON THE FLOOR--

--IT IS A SIMPLE EXERCISE TO FREE MY ASTRAL FORM!

NORMALLY, NONE BUT THE MOST ACCOMPLISHED MYSTICS CAN "SEE" AN ASTRAL IMAGE.

BUT A MENTAL INVOCATION OF THE ILLUSIONS OF IKONN WILL ALLOW JUST THE GUNMEN TO SEE AND HEAR ME--

-- IN A MANNER
WHICH THEY
SHOULD FIND
MOST DISCON-
CERTING!

MORTAL FOOLS!
TURN AND FACE
MY WRATHFUL
POWER!

THE POWER OF DR. STRANGE!

'EY... 'EY,
TONY!
W-W-WHAT'S
DAT ?!

BANK

!ULP!

STAN LEE PRESENTS A
TALE OF MYSTICAL NIGHT
BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
ROGER STERN, WRITER
MARSHALL ROGERS } ARTISTS
& TERRY AUSTIN
JIM NOVAK, LETTERER
BOB SHAREN, COLORS
ALLEN MILGROM, EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER, MEMBER, F.D.I.C.

APR 1

SOMETIME LATER, AS THE SUN SETS OVER NEW YORK, AT THE GREENWICH VILLAGE MANSE OF DR. STRANGE...

SO, NATURALLY, THE POLICE HAD NO TROUBLE TAKING THE HOLD-UP MEN AWAY. STILL...

...I WORRY, CLEA. FROM WHAT THE WOMAN AT THE BANK SAID, SHE MAY HAVE SEEN MY ASTRAL FORM!

PERHAPS SHE HAS SOME MINOR PSYCHIC ABILITY, STEPHEN. YOU SHOULDN'T LET IT CONCERN YOU OVERLY MUCH.

I JUST WISH I'D BEEN THERE WITH YOU AND SARA-- TO SEE THE LOOKS ON THOSE MEN'S FACES, WHEN YOU SENT YOUR "DEMON" AFTER THEM! HEE-HEE!

CLEA, THIS IS NOTHING TO JOKE ABOUT!

THAT ROBBERY PRESENTED A DEADLY DANGER TO ALL WHO WERE IN THAT BANK!

THIS IS NOT YOUR OTHER-DIMENSIONAL WORLD! BULLETS HERE CAN BE JUST AS DEADLY TO US AS MAGIC!

YOU ARE RIGHT, OF COURSE, BELOVED!

AND YET, SUCH A VICTORY CALLS FOR AT LEAST A SMALL CELEBRATION!

ARISING, DR. STRANGE'S DISCIPLE WEAVES A SIMPLE SPELL OF RETRIEVAL--

--BRINGING AN OBJECT WAFING TO HER FROM THE PANTRY.

HERE'S SOMETHING SARA SHOWED ME THE OTHER DAY-- A FORM OF CULINARY MAGIC CALLED... POPCORN!

BUT THEN, THE GENTLE EXPLOSIONS OF POPPING CORN ARE QUITE SUDDENLY DROWNED OUT BY THE RHYTHMIC BEATING OF JUNGLE DRUMS...

...AND THE CHAMBER IS AWASH WITH SWIRLING FUMES!

BY HOGGOTH!

CLEA, GET BACK!

S-STEPHEN? DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG?

MASTER! THERE IS SOMETHING WITHIN THE SMOKE!

DUM DUM DUM DUM DUM DUM

NO, NOT SOMETHING. SOMEONE! AN INTRUDER IS INVADING THE MASTER'S SANCTUM!

...BUT TO NO AVAIL.

KANG

SLIPPING THROUGH THE SMOKE ON CAT-FEET, WONG, THE FAITHFUL MAN-SERVANT, PREPARES TO DEFEND HIS MASTER WITH THE BURNISHED PENTER TRAY...

STEPHEN STRANGE! I HAVE COME IN SEARCH OF YOU!

HOLD, CLEA! THERE IS NO NEED FOR MYSTIC ATTACK!

I DO NOT BELIEVE WE HAVE ANYTHING TO FEAR FROM THIS MAN!

YOU ARE, I TAKE IT, JERICO DRUMM... THE MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF **BROTHER VOODOO**?

YOU KNOW OF ME? I AM IMPRESSED. THE NAME OF BROTHER VOODOO IS LITTLE KNOWN OUTSIDE THE CONFINES OF NEW ORLEANS... OR HAITI!

NOW I AM CERTAIN I HAVE COME TO THE RIGHT MAN FOR HELP!

WITHIN MOMENTS, WONG BRINGS A MUG OF THICK JAMAICAN COFFEE FOR THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER AND THEN...

THERE IS A GREAT EVIL SWEEPING ACROSS THE LAND, MY FRIENDS-- ONE WHICH YOUR MAGIC WOULD NOT NORMALLY DETECT.

AND THAT EVIL IS CALLED...
DAMBALLAH!

"THE FIRST TIME I ENCOUNTERED DAM-BALLAH'S POWER, I WAS BUT AN ORDINARY MORTAL. MY NAME WAS JERICO DRUMM, AND I HAD SPENT MANY YEARS BECOMING AN ACCOMPLISHED PSYCHOLOGIST.

"THEN, ONE DAY, I RETURNED TO MY NATIVE HAITI TO FIND MY TWIN BROTHER DANIEL DYING. HE HAD BEEN CURSED BY A LOA--

"SWearing vengeance, I sought out the old woodoo priest who had been Daniel's mentor, and became a student of the old ways.

"--A SPIRIT IN THE FORM OF A MAN-- WHICH CALLED ITSELF DAMBALLAH. I... COULD NOT SAVE DANIEL.

"I LEARNED HOW TO CONTROL LOWER LIFE FORMS... HOW TO WALK UNHARMED THROUGH THE HOTTEST FLAMES.

"AND FINALLY, THROUGH THE RITUAL OF THE DANCE VAUDOU, I SUMMONED UP THE SOUL OF MY LATE BROTHER!

"DANIEL'S LOA BECAME PART OF ME. AND I BECAME BROTHER VODOO... ONE MAN, WITH THE POWER OF TWO!"

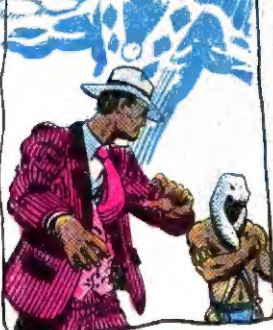


AS BROTHER VOODOO, I SET OUT IN SEARCH OF DAMBALLAH... AND FOUND HIM IN A REMOTE JUNGLE CLEARING, ADDRESSING A GATHERING OF HIS FOLLOWERS.

IT WAS THERE THAT I DISCOVERED MY GREATEST POWER! AS DAMBALLAH SENT HIS SERPENT ARMY AGAINST ME--



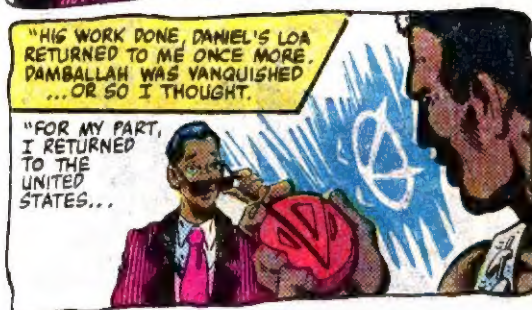
"... FLYING FROM MY BODY TO POSSESS ONE OF DAMBALLAH'S UNDERLINGS."



"UNDER MY CONTROL, THE MAN RIPPED AWAY DAMBALLAH'S WANGAL -- THE ENCHANTED AMULET WHICH WAS THE SOURCE OF HIS POWER!"

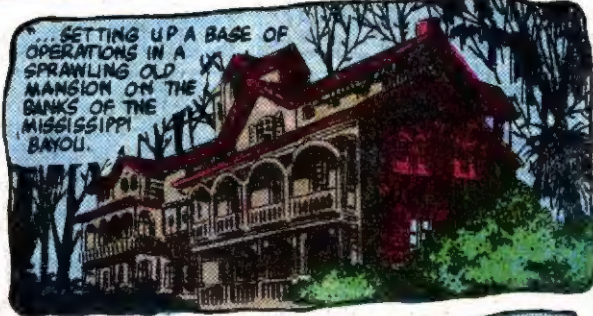


"WITHOUT THE WANGAL, HE LOST CONTROL OF THE SERPENTS... AND THEY TURNED ON HIM."



"HIS WORK DONE, DANIEL'S LOA RETURNED TO ME ONCE MORE. DAMBALLAH WAS VANQUISHED... OR SO I THOUGHT."

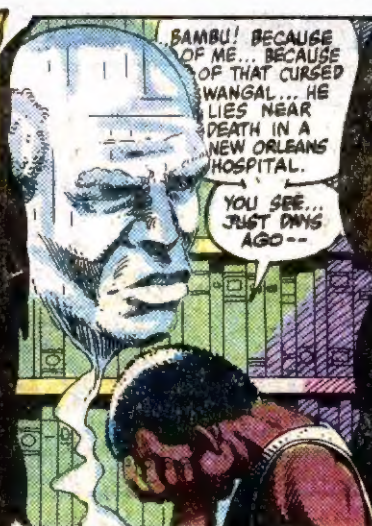
"FOR MY PART, I RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES..."



"SETTING UP A BASE OF OPERATIONS IN A SPRAWLING OLD MANSION ON THE BANKS OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAYOU."



"THE WANGAL, I DEEMED TOO DANGEROUS FOR ANY MAN TO POSSESS, SO I LOCKED IT AWAY IN A SAFE. THE COMBINATION WAS KNOWN ONLY TO MYSELF AND MY FAITHFUL RETAINER, BAMBU."



"BAMBU! BECAUSE OF ME... BECAUSE OF THAT CURSED WANGAL... HE LIES NEAR DEATH IN A NEW ORLEANS HOSPITAL."

"YOU SEE... JUST DAYS AGO--"



"-- I CAME HOME TO FIND THE MANSION ABLAZE... TORCHED BY DAMBALLAH'S FOLLOWERS!"

"I RACED INTO THE BURNING STRUCTURE WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT..."

"...FOR, AS I SAID, FIRE CANNOT HARM ME."

"BAMBU WAS NOT SO FORTUNATE."

AND YOU ARE CERTAIN THAT DAMBALLAH'S FOLLOWERS ARE RESPONSIBLE?

WHEN THE FIRE BURNT ITSELF OUT, I FOUND THAT THE SAFE HAD BEEN BLOWN OPEN--THE WANGAL STOLEN.

IF THE THIEVES WERE NOT FOLLOWERS OF DAMBALLAH BEFORE, THEY ARE NOW DAMBALLAH'S LOA WILL POSSESS WHOEVER WEARS IT!

YOU SEE, DAMBALLAH WALKS AGAIN! HE'S SOMEWHERE IN THIS VERY CITY...AND I CAN'T FIND HIM!

I SEE YOUR PROBLEM, BROTHER VOODOO--

STEPHEN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

TRYING TO HELP OUR GUEST, CLEA.

MY BANDS OF REDEVILMENT WILL HOLD HIS PHYSICAL FORM--

--WHILE THE LIGHT OF AGAMOTTO--

--REVEALS THE TRUE EVIL--

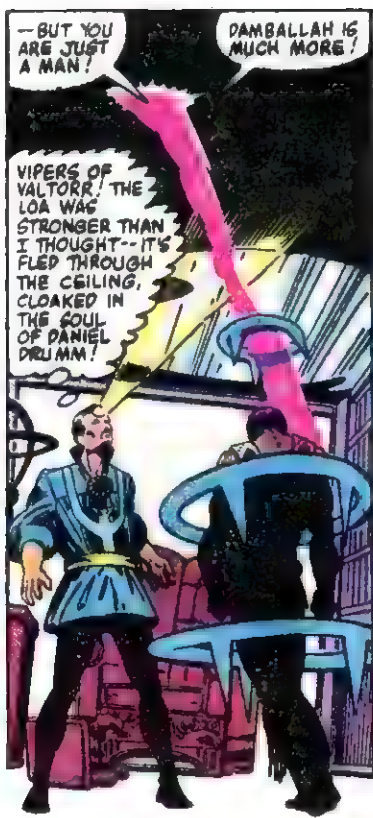
...THE EVIL WITHIN!

AS I SUSPECTED...YOUR STORY WAS A HALF-TRUTH!

THE LIGHT OF THE ALL SEEING EYE SHOWS THAT YOU WEAR THE WANGAL--

--AND THROUGH IT, DAMBALLAH HAS POSSESSED YOUR BROTHER'S LOA!

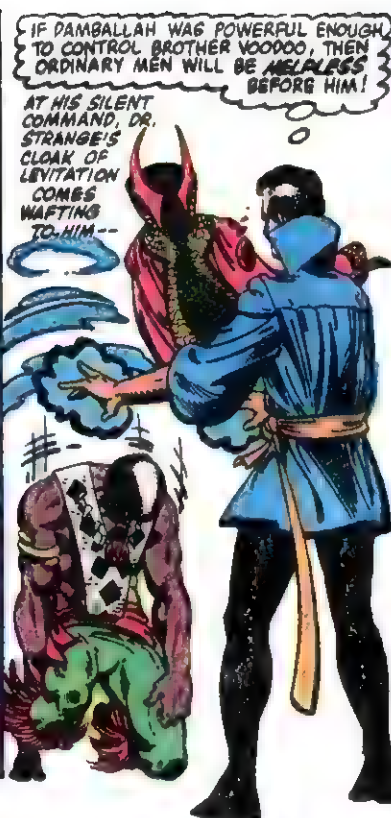
YOU ARE A CLEVER MAN, STRANGE--



-- BUT YOU ARE JUST A MAN!

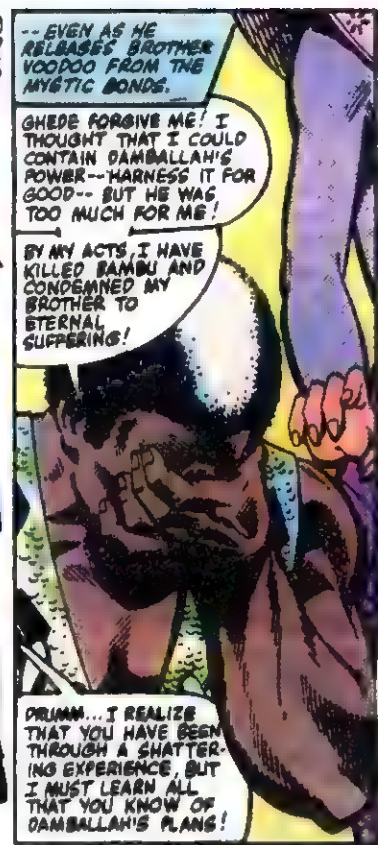
DAMBALLAH IS MUCH MORE!

VIPERS OF VALTORR! THE LOA WAS STRONGER THAN I THOUGHT-- IT'S FLED THROUGH THE CEILING, CLOAKED IN THE SOUL OF DANIEL DRUMM!



IF DAMBALLAH WAS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO CONTROL BROTHER VOODOO, THEN ORDINARY MEN WILL BE HELPLESS BEFORE HIM!

AT HIS SILENT COMMAND, DR. STRANGE'S CLOAK OF LEVITATION COMES WAFTING TO HIM--



-- EVEN AS HE RELEASES BROTHER VOODOO FROM THE MYSTIC BONDS.

GHEDE FORGIVE ME! I THOUGHT THAT I COULD CONTAIN DAMBALLAH'S POWER-- HARNESS IT FOR GOOD-- BUT HE WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME!

BY MY ACTS, I HAVE KILLED BAMBU AND CONDEMNED MY BROTHER TO ETERNAL SUFFERING!

DRUMM... I REALIZE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN THROUGH A SHATTERING EXPERIENCE, BUT I MUST LEARN ALL THAT YOU KNOW OF DAMBALLAH'S PLANS!



THERE IS NOT MUCH TO TELL, I FEAR. DAMBALLAH BLOCKED MUCH OF MY CONSCIOUSNESS OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS. BUT HE DOES HAVE FOLLOWERS SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY... HE NEEDS THEIR "WORSHIP" TO MAINTAIN HIS POWER IN THIS WORLD.

AND YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT HE HAD ME BRING HIM HERE, THAT HE MIGHT POSSESS YOU!

ME?



YES. DAMBALLAH SEEKS CONTROL OF YOUR MAGIC. WE MUST STOP HIM.

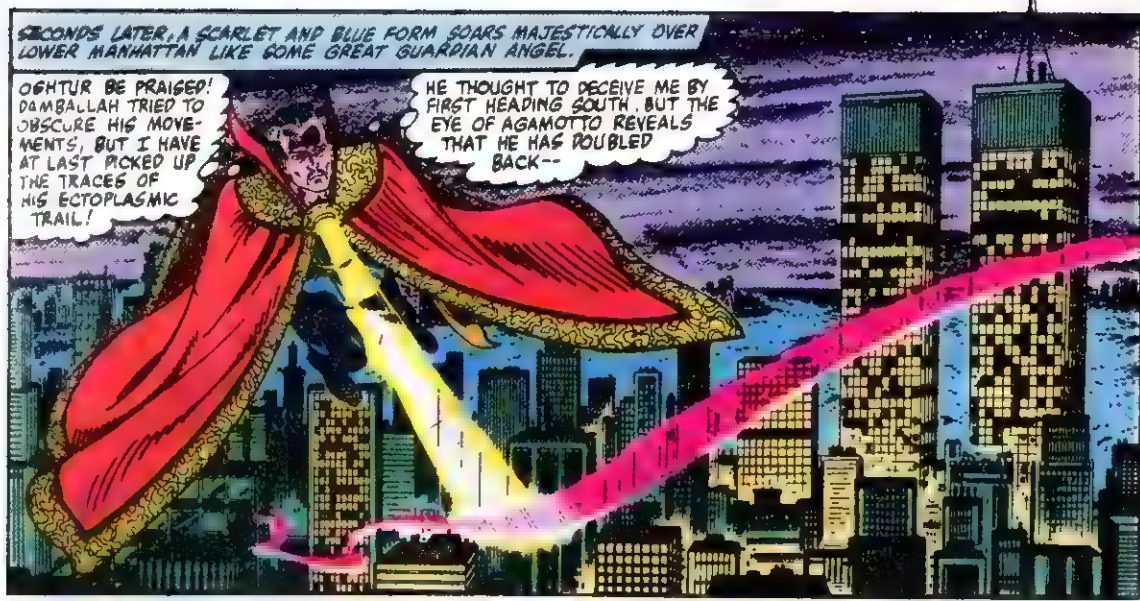
NOT ME... YOU MUST STAY HERE.

MY BROTHER'S SOUL IS AT STAKE, STRANGE!

AS IS YOURS, MY FRIEND, WITH YOUR BROTHER IN HIS CONTROL, THERE IS TOO GREAT A DANGER OF DAMBALLAH POSSESSING YOU AGAIN!

AND I HAVE NO DESIRE TO FIGHT YOU TO THE DEATH!

CLEAR, I LEAVE OUR GUEST IN YOUR CARE.



SECONDS LATER, A SCARLET AND BLUE FORM SOARS MAJESTICALLY OVER LOWER MANHATTAN LIKE SOME GREAT GUARDIAN ANGEL.

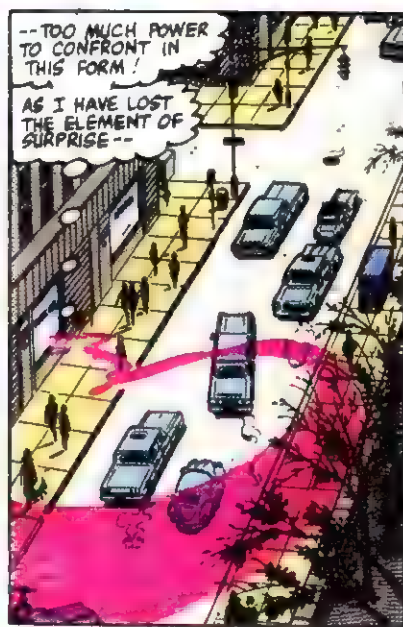
OGHTUR BE PRAISED! DAMBALLAH TRIED TO OBSCURE HIS MOVEMENTS, BUT I HAVE AT LAST PICKED UP THE TRACES OF HIS ECTOPLASMIC TRAIL!

HE THOUGHT TO DECEIVE ME BY FIRST HEADING SOUTH, BUT THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO REVEALS THAT HE HAS DOUBLED BACK--



--TO THE NORTH!

BY THE GREAT SERPENT, HE'S FOUND ME! THERE IS GREAT POWER IN THIS MAN--



--TOO MUCH POWER TO CONFRONT IN THIS FORM!

AS I HAVE LOST THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE--



--I MUST AGAIN ASSUME A PHYSICAL FORM, AND I SHALL FIND THAT FORM HERE... AMONGST MY CHILDREN!



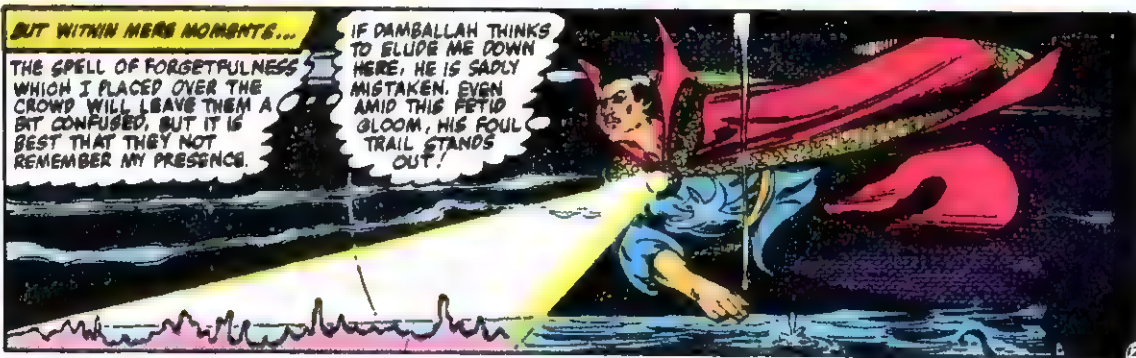
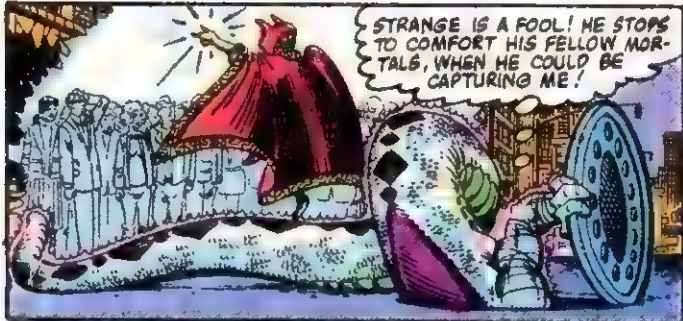
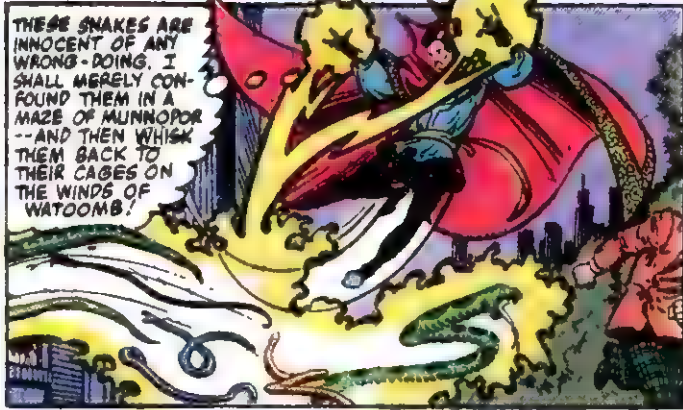
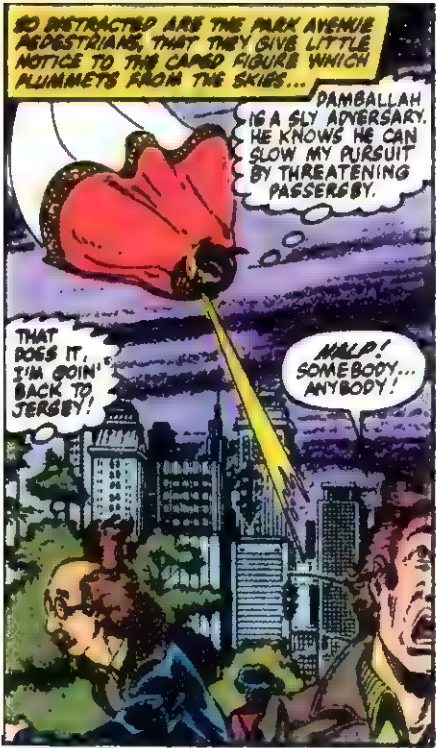
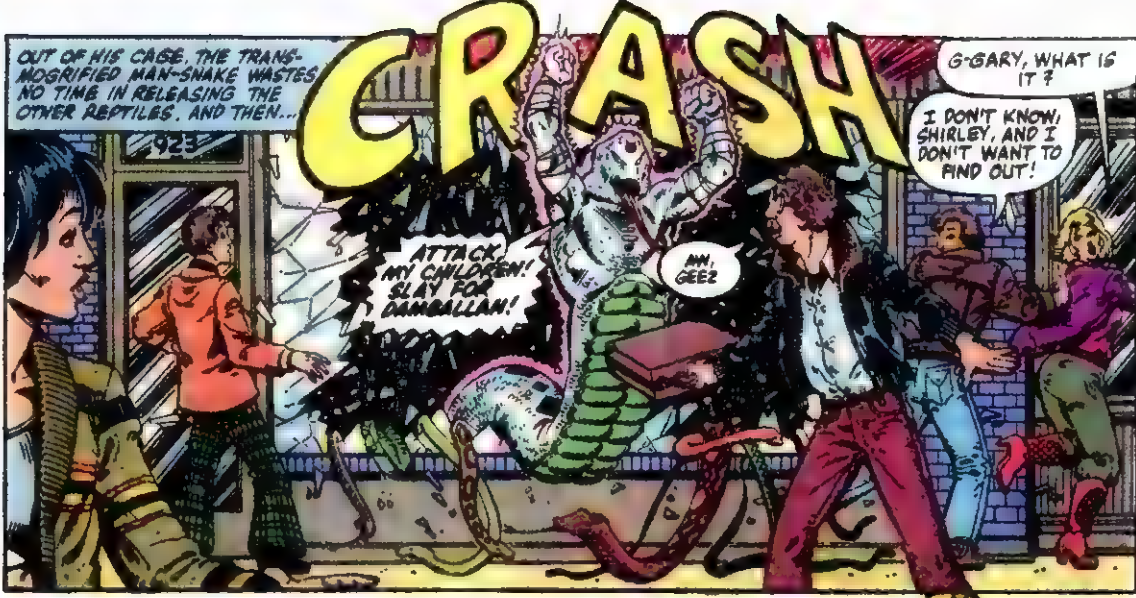
IN AN INSTANT, THE WRAITH-LIKE LOA SLITHERS ACROSS THE PET SHOP AND INTO THE BODY OF A GLIMMERING PYTHON--

--CALLING ON HIS POWER TO MAKE ITS SUBSTANCE TWIST, EXPAND...



...AND CHANGE!

crash



OUT OF HIS CASE, THE TRANS-MOGRIFIED MAN-SNAKE WASTES NO TIME IN RELEASING THE OTHER REPTILES. AND THEN...

CRASH

G-GARY, WHAT IS IT?

I DON'T KNOW, SHIRLEY, AND I DON'T WANT TO FIND OUT!

ATTACK MY CHILDREN! SLAY FOR DAMBALLAH!

MM, GEEZ

SO DISTRACTED ARE THE PARK AVENUE PEDESTRIANS, THAT THEY GIVE LITTLE NOTICE TO THE CAPED FIGURE WHICH PLUMMETS FROM THE SKIES...

DAMBALLAH IS A SLY ADVERSARY. HE KNOWS HE CAN SLOW MY PURSUIT BY THREATENING PASSERBY.

THAT DOES IT, I'M GOIN' BACK TO JERSEY!

HALP! SOMEBODY... ANYBODY!

THESE SNAKES ARE INNOCENT OF ANY WRONG-DOING. I SHALL MERELY CONFOUND THEM IN A MAZE OF MUKNOPOR -- AND THEN WHISK THEM BACK TO THEIR CAGES ON THE WINDS OF WATOOMB!

STRANGE IS A FOOL! HE STOPS TO COMFORT HIS FELLOW MORTALS, WHEN HE COULD BE CAPTURING ME!

BUT WITHIN MERE MOMENTS...

THE SPELL OF FORGETFULNESS WHICH I PLACED OVER THE CROWD WILL LEAVE THEM A BIT CONFUSED, BUT IT IS BEST THAT THEY NOT REMEMBER MY PRESENCE.

IF DAMBALLAH THINKS TO ELUDE ME DOWN HERE, HE IS SADLY MISTAKEN. EVEN AMID THIS FETID GLOOM, HIS FOUL TRAIL STANDS OUT!

AT THAT MOMENT, HOWEVER, SEVERAL
BLOCKS AWAY...

WHAT ON
EARTH--?!

I GENCE
OPEN GROUND
AHEAD! THERE,
I CAN REST
AND PLAN MY
NEXT MOVE!

A PARK... AND IN THE DIS-
TANCE, AN ENCLOSURE FOR
LOWER LIFE-FORMS!
EXCELLENT!

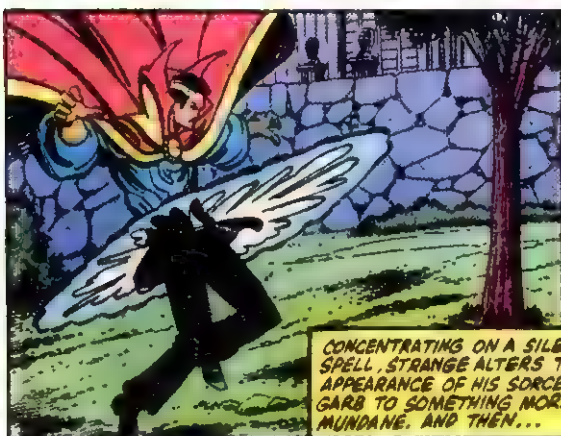
THE PRIMAL ESSENCES
THERE WILL MASK MY
PRESENCE FROM THE
SORCERER UNTIL I
CAN STRIKE!

CENTRAL PARK!
MY FOE COULD
HIDE OUT
HERE FOR
DAYS!

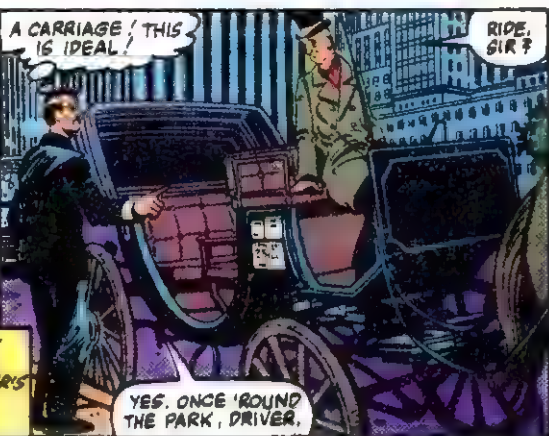
I MUST FIND
HIM BEFORE HE
GETS TOO FAR.

HMM... IT IS
BEST THAT
I NOT
ATTRACT TOO
MUCH
ATTENTION IN
MY SEARCH.

AND
SOON...



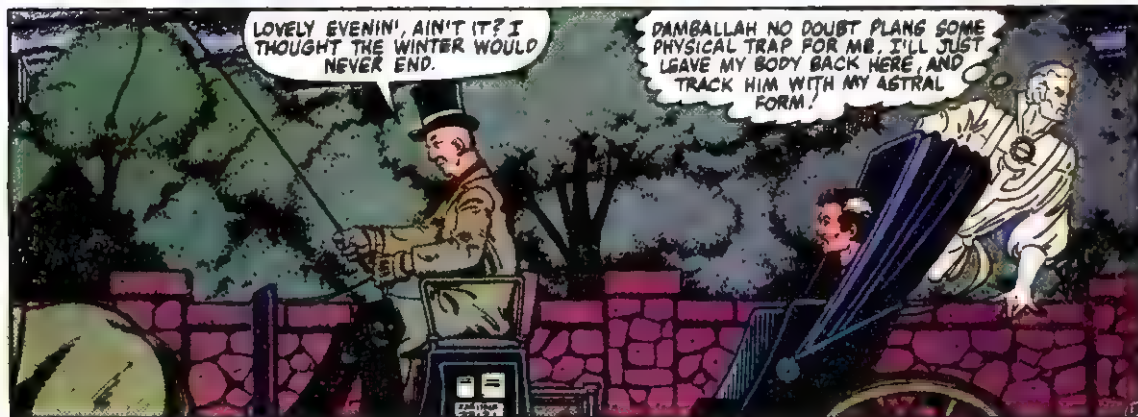
CONCENTRATING ON A SILENT
SPELL, STRANGE ALTERS THE
APPEARANCE OF HIS SORCERER'S
GARB TO SOMETHING MORE
MUNDANE, AND THEN...



A CARRIAGE! THIS
IS IDEAL!

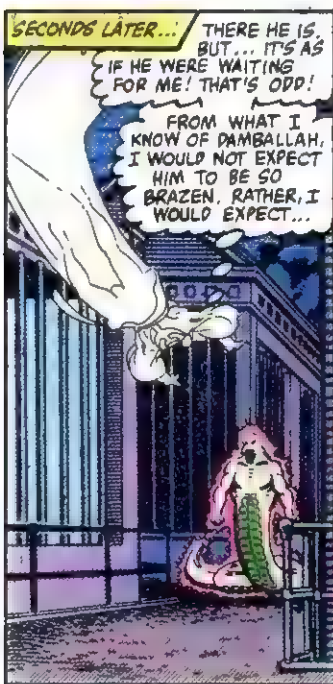
RISE,
SIR?

YES, ONCE 'ROUND
THE PARK, DRIVER.



LOVELY EVENIN', AIN'T IT? I
THOUGHT THE WINTER WOULD
NEVER END.

DAMBALLAH NO DOUBT PLANS SOME
PHYSICAL TRAP FOR ME, I'LL JUST
LEAVE MY BODY BACK HERE, AND
TRACK HIM WITH MY ASTRAL
FORM!



SECONDS LATER...

THERE HE IS, BUT... IT'S AS IF HE WERE WAITING FOR ME! THAT'S ODD!

FROM WHAT I KNOW OF DAMBALLAH, I WOULD NOT EXPECT HIM TO BE SO BRAZEN, RATHER, I WOULD EXPECT...



...TRICKY!

CURSE ME FOR A NOVICE! THE MAN-SNAKE FORM IS ONLY AN ILLUSION!



DAMBALLAH HAS ALREADY FLED THE SERPENT'S BODY!

HE HAS LED ME HERE TO FIND THIS RED HERRING --



"--WHILE MY BODY SITS ALONE AND UNPROTECTED!"

DIDJA HEAR ME, MAC? I SAID, THIS WEATHER MAKES YA WANT TO SOW A FEW WILD OATS!

KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

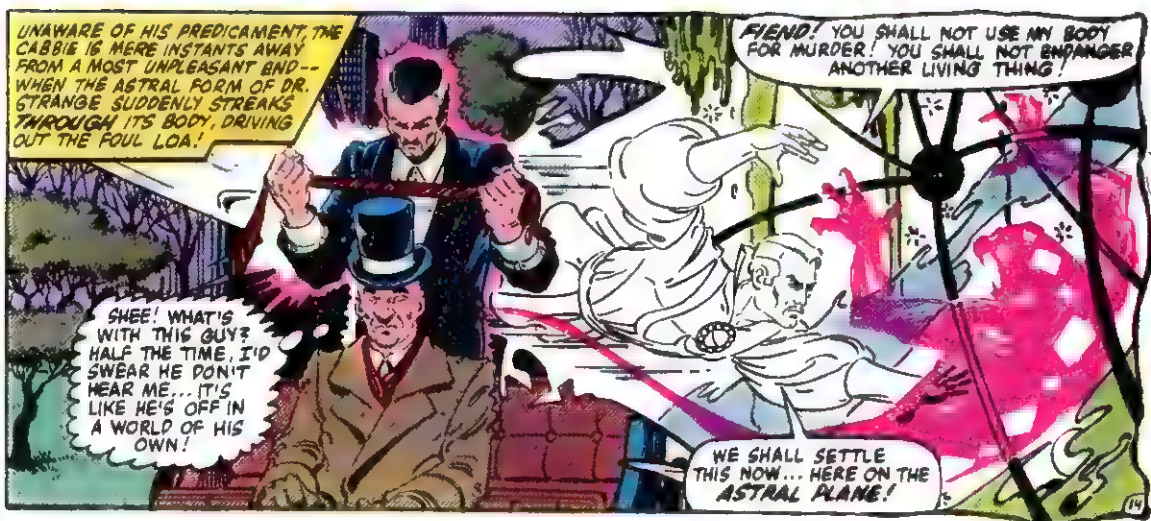


YES.

I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU MEAN!



YEAH, I'M THINKIN' OF HEAVIN' DOWN TO ATLANTIC CITY. YOU EVER BEEN THERE?



UNAWARE OF HIS PREDICAMENT, THE CABBIE IS MERE INSTANTS AWAY FROM A MOST UNPLEASANT END-- WHEN THE ASTRAL FORM OF DR. STRANGE SUDDENLY STREAKS THROUGH ITS BODY, DRIVING OUT THE FOUL LOA!

SHEE! WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY? HALF THE TIME, I'D SWEAR HE DON'T HEAR ME... IT'S LIKE HE'S OFF IN A WORLD OF HIS OWN!

FIEND! YOU SHALL NOT USE MY BODY FOR MURDER! YOU SHALL NOT ENDANGER ANOTHER LIVING THING!

WE SHALL SETTLE THIS NOW... HERE ON THE ASTRAL PLANE!

YOU CARRY WITH YOU
THE SOUL OF DANIEL
DRUMM! GIVE IT UP,
OR SUFFER THE
CONSEQUENCES!

YOU THINK YOU
CAN ORDER ME?
ME?! I AM A
GOD!

DAMBALLAH, I GROW WEARY OF
CLAIMS OF GODHOOD FROM
EVERY EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL
ENTITY WHO MANAGES TO
GATHER A FEW EARTHLY
FOLLOWERS!

RELEASE
DRUMM'S SOUL, OR
BY THE FALTIMIAN
FLAMES, I'LL MAKE
YOU WISH YOU'D
NEVER HEARD OF
EARTH!

DAMBALLAH!

I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!
EVEN ON THE ASTRAL PLANE
THIS ... THIS MAN IS BESTING
ME. IT IS UNTHINKABLE, BUT
I MUST FLEE!

I MUST RE-ESTABLISH CONTACT
WITH MY FOLLOWERS AND DRAW
STRENGTH FROM THEM!

HE SLINKS OFF TO CONCOCT
MORE DEVILTRY. I MUST
RETURN TO MY BODY AND
TRACK HIM ANEW!

I'LL GET OFF HERE,
DRIVER-- IF YOU DON'T
MIND.

EH?

WHATEVER YOU SAY,
MAC. HOPE MY WHISTLIN'
DIDN'T PUT YOU OFF!

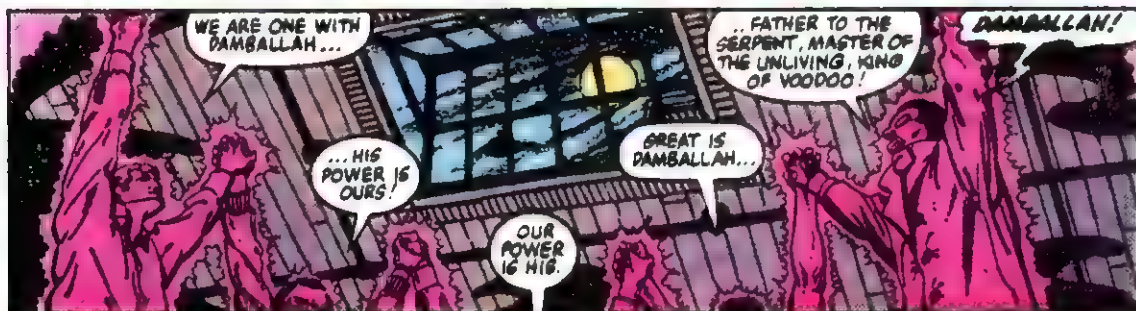
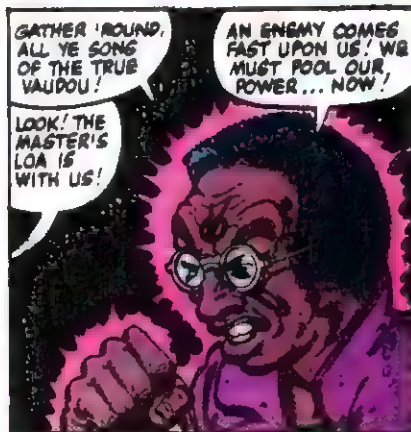
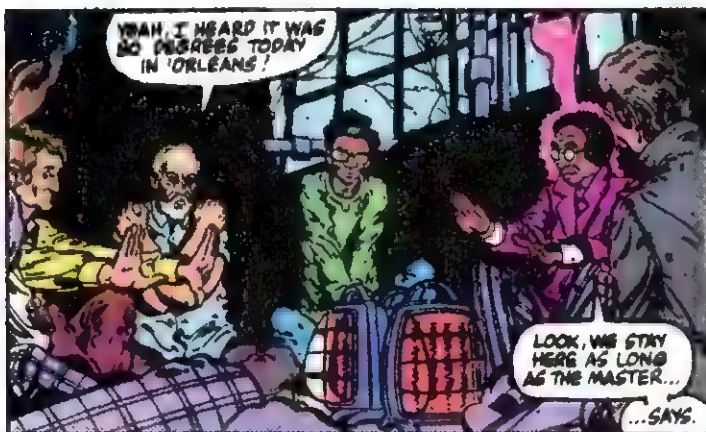
HEH, HEH...

...HEH!

BOY, WHAT A
STRANGE GUY!

DAMBALLAH IS
PANICKING!

HE'S NOT EVEN
BOOTHERING TO
OBSERVE HIS PSYCHIC
FIELD. I CAN SENSE
HIM SPEEDING NORTH.





LIKE THE SERPENTS, THESE MEN ARE MERE DUPES OF THE LOA! THIS CONJURER'S SPHERE WILL NOT HOLD THEM PHYSICALLY, BUT IT SHOULD CONTAIN DAMBALLAH!

HOWEVER, AS THE MEN LUMBER FORWARD, THROUGH THE SIDE OF THE MAGIC ENCLOSURE...

LIVE FOR DAMBALLAH!

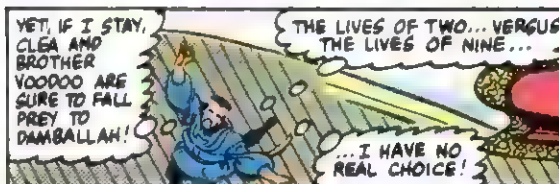
KILL FOR DAMBALLAH!



BY THE ALL-SEEING! THIS IS NO SIMPLE POSSESSION! THESE MEN HAVE BECOME MINDLESS THRALLS!

DAMBALLAH IS NOT AMONG THEM! HE MUST HAVE FLED, EVEN AS I ENTERED!

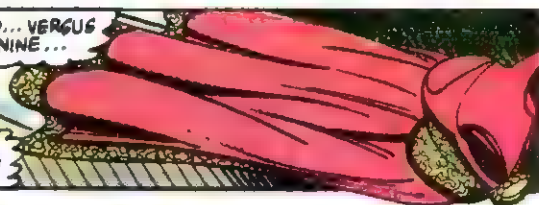
I MUST BEGIN A SPELL OF RESTORATION AT ONCE, OR THESE MEN ARE DOOMED!



YET, IF I STAY, CLEA AND BROTHER VOODOO ARE GURE TO FALL PREY TO DAMBALLAH!

THE LIVES OF TWO... VERSUS THE LIVES OF NINE...

...I HAVE NO REAL CHOICE!



TAKING A DEEP BREATH, STRANGE FLINGS HIS CAPE TO ONE SIDE --

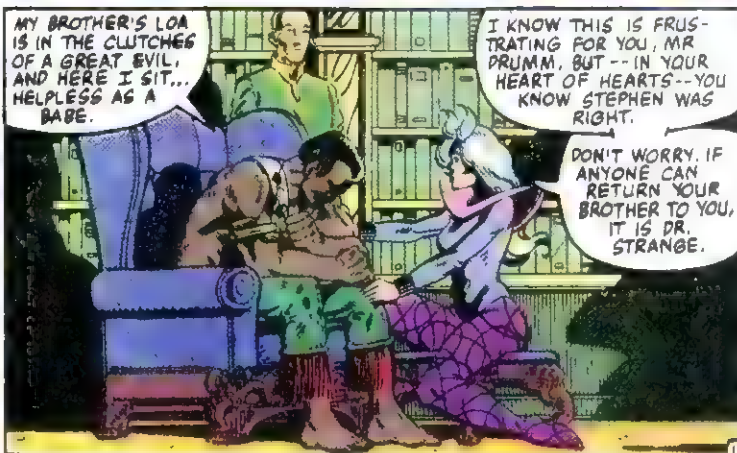


--AND TURNS TO FACE THE THRALLS WHO CLOSE IN ON HIM...



WHILE, AT HIS VILLAGE SANCTUM...

GHED! IF ONLY THERE WAS SOMETHING I COULD DO!



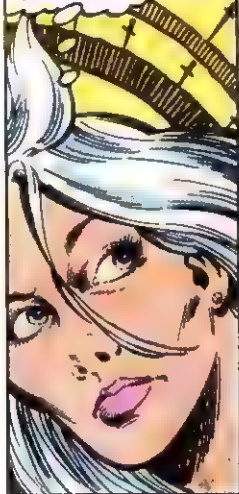
MY BROTHER'S LOA IS IN THE CLUTCHES OF A GREAT EVIL, AND HERE I SIT... HELPLESS AS A BABE.

I KNOW THIS IS FRUSTRATING FOR YOU, MR PRUMM, BUT -- IN YOUR HEART OF HEARTS -- YOU KNOW STEPHEN WAS RIGHT.

DON'T WORRY. IF ANYONE CAN RETURN YOUR BROTHER TO YOU, IT IS DR. STRANGE.

BUT, EVEN AS THE WORDS PASS HER LIPS...

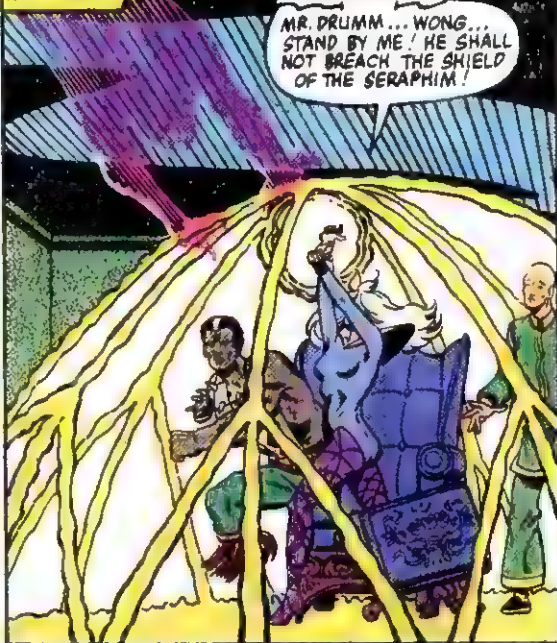
I SENSE AN ASTRAL DISTURBANCE. SOMETHING IS PENETRATING THE MYSTIC BARRIERS AROUND THE SANCTUM!



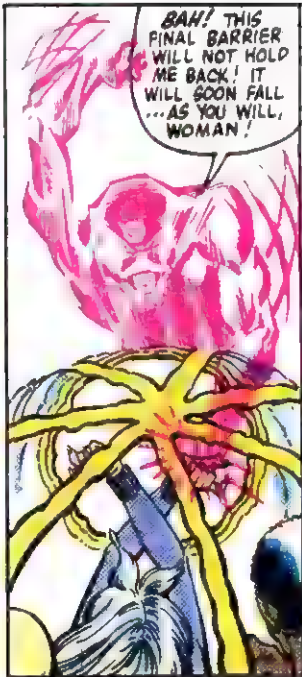
AND THEN...

DAMBALLAH!

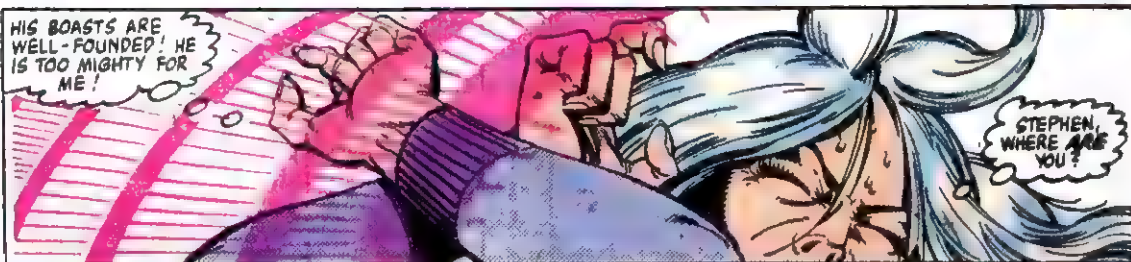
MR. DRUMM... WONG... STAND BY ME! HE SHALL NOT BREACH THE SHIELD OF THE SERAPHIM!



BAH! THIS FINAL BARRIER WILL NOT HOLD ME BACK! IT WILL SOON FALL... AS YOU WILL, WOMAN!

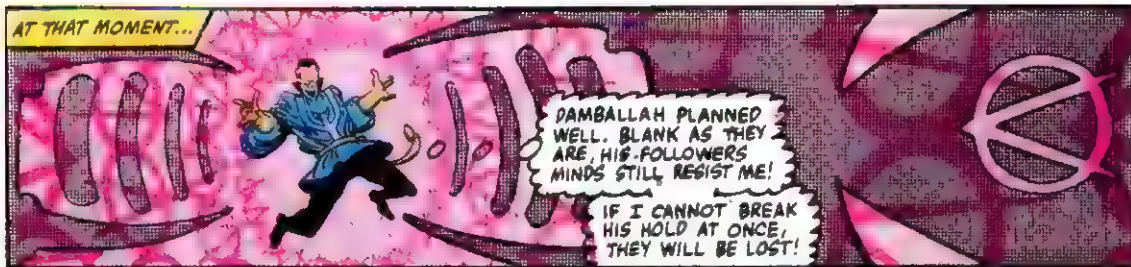


HIS BOASTS ARE WELL-FOUNDED! HE IS TOO MIGHTY FOR ME!



STEPHEN, WHERE ARE YOU?

AT THAT MOMENT...



DAMBALLAH PLANNED WELL. BLANK AS THEY ARE, HIS FOLLOWERS' MINDS STILL RESIST ME!

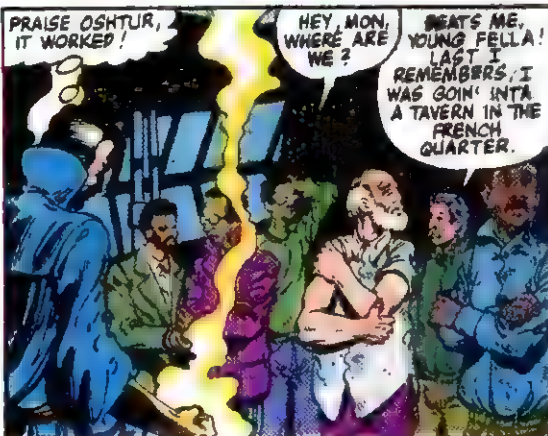
IF I CANNOT BREAK HIS HOLD AT ONCE, THEY WILL BE LOST!



BY THE GRACE OF THE VISHANTI, BY THE WASTES OF IKHTALON--

LET THESE CIPHERS LIVE AS MEN NOW, AND LET LOA'S HOLD BE GONE!

PRaise OSHTUR, IT WORKED!



HEY, MON, WHERE ARE WE?

BEATS ME, YOUNG FELLA! LAST I REMEMBERS, I WAS GOIN' INTO A TAVERN IN THE FRENCH QUARTER.

BUT STRANGE'S VICTORY MAY BE A HOLLOW ONE... FOR, SHORTLY, IN THE VERY HEART OF HIS SANCTUM...



HAH! YOUR PRECIOUS SHIELD IS NO MORE, WOMAN! NOW SHALL YOU FEEL THE COLD EMBRACE OF DAMBALLAH!

IT IS ME YOU WANT, DAMBALLAH! LET THE WOMAN BE!

YET, EVEN AS BROTHER VOODOO THROWS HIMSELF BETWEEN CLEA AND THE LOA--



--A FAMILIAR CAPE AND AMULET STREAK INTO THE CHAMBER...

...SEPARATING DAMBALLAH FROM HIS INTENDED VICTIMS!



MISTRESS CLEA-- IT IS THE MASTER'S CLOAK!

OH HE

MISTRESS CLEA!



WONG, ISN'T THAT GLOWING BAUBLE--?

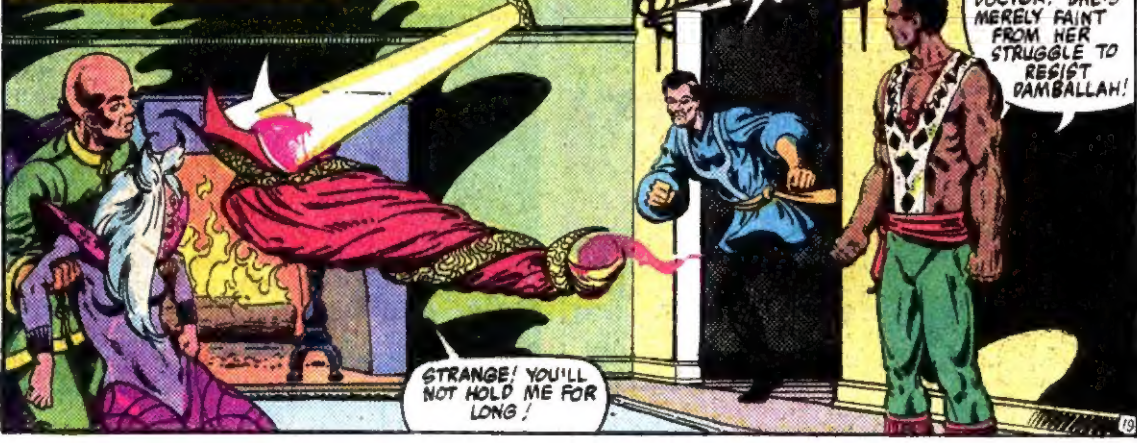
YES, IT'S THE MASTER'S MAGIC AMULET-- THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO. 'TIS SAID THAT NONE CAN RESIST ITS LIGHT.



AARGH! THIS CANNOT BE! DAMBALLAH CANNOT BE COWED BY MERE LIGHT... CANNOT BE ENGAGED BY CLOTH!

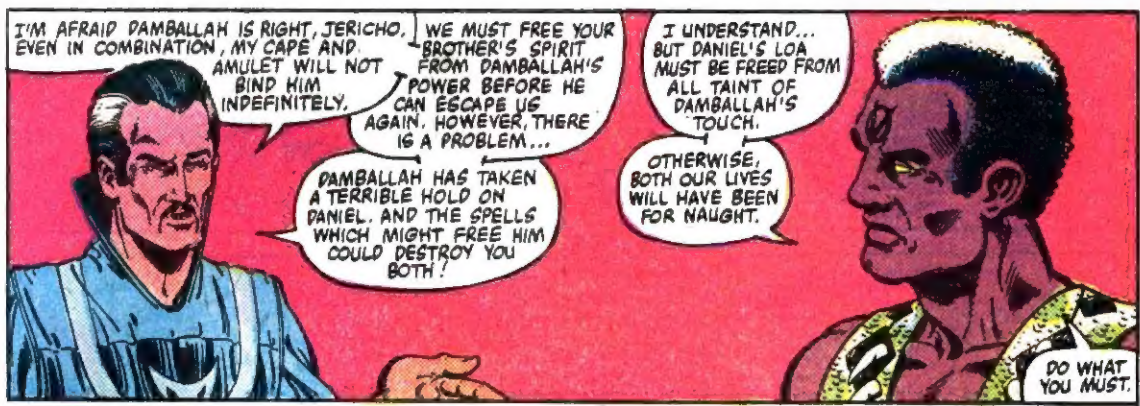
I AM BUT A HUMBLE SERVANT, UNDERSTANDING LITTLE OF WHAT I SEE, BUT THIS I KNOW... DR. STRANGE LIVES! AND HE HAS SENT US AID!

TENGE MINUTES PASS, AND THEN...



STRANGE! YOU'LL NOT HOLD ME FOR LONG!

SHE IS WELL, DOCTOR! SHE'S MERELY FAINT FROM HER STRUGGLE TO RESIST DAMBALLAH!



I'M AFRAID DAMBALLAH IS RIGHT, JERICO. EVEN IN COMBINATION, MY CAPE AND AMULET WILL NOT BIND HIM INDEFINITELY.

WE MUST FREE YOUR BROTHER'S SPIRIT FROM DAMBALLAH'S POWER BEFORE HE CAN ESCAPE US AGAIN. HOWEVER, THERE IS A PROBLEM...

I UNDERSTAND... BUT DANIEL'S LOA MUST BE FREED FROM ALL TAIN OF DAMBALLAH'S TOUCH.

DAMBALLAH HAS TAKEN A TERRIBLE HOLD ON DANIEL. AND THE SPELLS WHICH MIGHT FREE HIM COULD DESTROY YOU BOTH.

OTHERWISE, BOTH OUR LIVES WILL HAVE BEEN FOR NAUGHT.

DO WHAT YOU MUST.



DR. STRANGE NODS SOLEMNLY, AND THEN, WITH A FROWN OF CONCENTRATION, HE PUTS JERICO DRUHM UNDER THE SPELL OF MORPHEUS--LEVITATING THE VODOO PRIEST'S UNCONSCIOUS FORM.

HEAR ME, GREAT POWERS OF PARANTHON! NOW GUARD THESE SOULS SO BOLD...

... LET THESE TWO MEN 'GAIN BE AS ONE, AND BREAK DAMBALLAH'S HOLD!

BRIGHTER, EVER BRIGHTER, BLOWS THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO, FORGING A CIRCUIT OF ENCHANTMENT BETWEEN THE POSSESSED SOUL, THE UNHOLY WANGAL, THE HELPLESS BROTHER, AND THE SORCERER SUPREME--

--AND FLOODING THE DARKENED CHAMBER WITH A SEARING WHITE RADIANCE, RIVALING THAT OF THE SUN!



AHK!

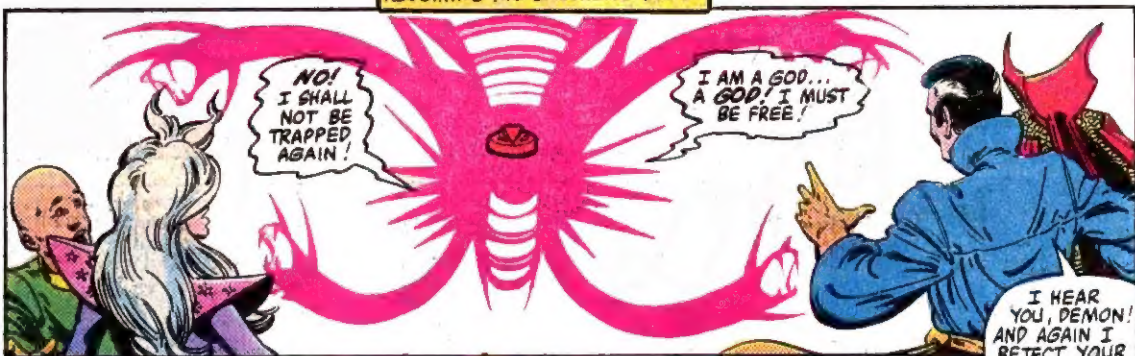
DON'T LOOK, WONG! SOME SPELLS CARRY THEIR OWN DEFENSE, TO DISCOURAGE PRYING EYES!



THE ROOM RUMBLES WITH AN UNEARTHLY SHUDDER, AS THE SHIMMERING FORM OF DAMBALLAH IS DRAWN INTO THE WANGAL--



--AND THE SPIRIT OF DANIEL DRUMM PASSES THROUGH, REJOINING HIS BROTHER'S BODY!



NO!
I SHALL
NOT BE
TRAPPED
AGAIN!

I AM A GOD...
A GOD! I MUST
BE FREE!

I HEAR
YOU, DEMON!
AND AGAIN I
REJECT YOUR
CLAIMS OF
GODHOOD!



YOU ARE MERELY AN
EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL
PARASITE WHICH HAS
TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF
SOME MEN'S MIS-
GUIDED FAITH!

YOU ARE
BENEATH MY
CONTEMPT!



BRING FORTH THE
DEEPEST DARKNESS,
FROM THE PURE NIHILITY--
AND FOREVER IN THE
WANGAL SEAL THIS
MOST FOUL ENTITY!

NOOOOOO

THE MONSTROUS SCREAM FADES SLOWLY AWAY, AND THE AIR OF ENCHANTMENT SEEMS TO SEEP AWAY INTO THE VERY WOODWORK.



IT IS OVER.

DAMBALLAH SHALL TROUBLE US NO MORE. ARE YOU QUITE WELL, JERICHO?

JERICHO DRUMM IS GONE, DOCTOR. I AM ONCE AGAIN, BROTHER VOODOO. THANKS TO YOU.



NO THANKS ARE NECESSARY, MY FRIEND, I MERELY DO WHAT I MUST.

YOU ARE TOO MODEST, DOCTOR. I WAS A FOOL TO TRY AND CONTAIN THE POWER OF DAMBALLAH. I KNOW NOW THAT THERE ARE SOME FORCES WHICH ONLY A TRUE MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS CAN OVERCOME.

THERE IS STILL MUCH WORK IN THIS WORLD FOR BROTHER VOODOO.



AYE! AND BROTHER VOODOO IS NOT WITHOUT HIS... TALENTS. I AWAIT THE DAY WHEN I MAY AID YOU!

FAREWELL!

FOR NOW, I MUST SEE TO RETURNING DAMBALLAH'S "FOLLOWERS" TO THEIR HOMES.

DUM DUM



STEPHEN! HE... HE'S GONE!

THAT HE IS, CLEA!

BUT... THAT SMOKE, THOSE DRUMS... I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

NOW COULD HE COME AND GO LIKE THAT WITHOUT DISTURBING OUR MAGIC BARRIERS!

PERHAPS, BECAUSE HE DID NOT USE MAGIC!



YOU SEE, CLEA, THERE IS AS MUCH TRICKERY AS THERE IS MYSTICISM TO BROTHER VOODOO'S "MAGIC" IF YOU WERE TO CHECK THE CHIMNEY, I THINK YOU'D FIND A VERY UNMAGICAL EXPLANATION FOR HIS COMINGS AND GOINGS.

AND SPEAKING OF COMINGS AND GOINGS...



...WONG, WOULD YOU PLEASE PAY THE CAB DRIVER WHO'S WAITING OUTSIDE? HE DESERVES A GOOD TIP FOR THE SPEEDY RIDE HE GAVE ME FROM HARLEM!

AS YOU SAY, MASTER!

--FIN--